

Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 JUSE-00 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /064 W

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P R 061300Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 118

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

COMNAVBASE GTMO

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, JM

SUBJECT P M MANLEY LAUNCHES ANTI-VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN

1. P M MANLEY ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 4 "A MASSIVE PROGRAM OF CURFEWS, CORDONS AND SEARCHES" IN THE TROUBLED SECTORS OF THE (KINGSTON) CORPORATED AREA, ALONG WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ARMY POSTS IN ARNETT GARDENS (PNP AREA), REMA AND TIVOLI GARDES (JLP AREAS).

HE SAID THE PROGRAM WOULD BE COMPLETELY NON-PARTISAN AND BEYOND ANY QUESTION OF POLITICAL INFLUENCE OR TAINT.

2. TO COORDINATE AND FOCUS THE EFFORTS OF THE SECURITY FORCES AND TO ENSURE THAT THEY OPERATE IN A CONTEXT OF "NATIONAL MOBILIZATION", THE GOVERNMENT HAS ESTABLISHED AN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON NATIONAL SECURITY. IT IS COMPOSED OF 6 EMINENT LEADERS DRAWN FROM THE CLERGY, CIVIL SERVICE, BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND LEGAL PROFESSION, AND IS TO BE CHAIRED BY DR. LLOYD BARNETT, PRESIDENT OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION

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3. ADDITIONALLY, THE CABINET IS ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT

SUB-COMMITTEE ON CRIME AND VIOLENCE CONSISTING OF PRIME MINISTER
MANLEY, DEPUTY P M COORE, MINISTER OF SECURITY MUNN,
MINISTER OF JUSTICE RATTRAY AND ATTORNEY GENERAL
ROBINSON

4. AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK THE ADVISORY COUNCIL WILL MEET
WITH THE CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE TO REVIEW PLANS AND DEVELOP-
MENTS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME AND VIOLENCE, TO CONSIDER
AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE LEGAL MEASURES WHICH MIGHT
BE TAKEN TO STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF THE COUNTRY TO
DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM, TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON CRIMINAL
INTELLIGENCE, AND TO DISCUSS WITH THE OFFICIAL
REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENT GENERALLY THE VARIOUS ASPECTS
OF CRIME AND VIOLENCE, ON A REGULAR BASIS

5. THE CHIEF OF STAFF, JAMAICA DEFENSE FORCE, BRIGADIER RUDOLPH GREEN, THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR. BASIL ROBINSON, AND THE DIRECTOR OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR.

DUDLEY ALLEN, WILL SIT AS ADVISERS TO ALL MEETINGS BETWEEN
THE CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE AND THE ADVISORY COUNCIL, AND
WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO THE COUNCIL. THE FIRST MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL AND THE SUB-COMMITTEE IS SET FOR FEBRUARY 9.

6. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID
THE GOVERNMENT HAD NO OBJECTIONS IN
PRINCIPLE TO SETTING UP A COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY INTO THE
RECENT VIOLENCE, BUT THAT WAS ESSENTIALLY SOMETHING OF
A LONG TERM NATURE. THE CRISIS WAS UPON THE
COUNTRY NOW, AND IT WOULD BE LEFT TO THE ADVISORY
COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THE USEFULNESS OF AN ENQUIRY

7. MANLEY CALLED UPON THE LEADERS OF HIS PARTY, AT ALL
LEVELS, TO PUT JAMAICA FIRST, AND INVITED THE OPPOSITION
TO DO THE SAME, SO THAT THEY COULD UNITE TO DEFEAT THE
COMMON ENEMY OF CRIME AND VIOLENCE. HE WOULD BE WILLING
TO MEET THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION ON A PERSONAL BASIS
TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION

8. IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUESTIONS FOLLOWING HIS ANNOUNCE-
MENT, MANLEY SAID THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF ANY INTERFERENCE
BY ANY FOREIGN POWER AND THAT NO MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT
WAS ASSOCIATED WITH ANY CRIMINAL GANGS.

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9. COMMENT: MANLEY'S ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE WELL RECEIVED
ALTHOUGH THERE MAY BE A GOOD DEAL OF SKEPTICISM THAT
THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST VIOLENCE INDEED WILL BE NON-PARTISAN.
WHAT IS ASSURING AND THE SOURCE OF GREATEST HOPE TO THE

PUBLIC IS THE INVOLVEMENT OF SOME OF THE MOST RESPECTED
COMMUNITY LEADERS IN THE ADVISORY COUNCIL. THE STATIONING
OF TROOPS IN ARNETT GARDENS, THE HOME GROUND OF THE PNP'S
GARRISON GANG, IS BEING INTERPRETED BY LOCAL OPTIMISTS
AS AN INDICATION THAT MANLEY IN FACT INTENDS THE
CAMPAIGN TO BE NON-PARTISAN

10. PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT FOLLOWED NEW SPATE OF SHOOTINGS
AND OTHER VIOLENCE TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY IN WEST KINGSTON GERARD

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